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INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Colombia/Venezuela

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DATE DISTR. 23 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Entry of Arms into Colombia

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Alfonso Canacho, a Colombian who worked as chauffeur for Romulo Betancourt, is reported to be responsible for the influx of Czech arms into Colombia during January 1949. He stated that the arms had been imported to Venezuela for the use of the Accion Democratica party (Democratic Action - AD), but that they had been sent to Colombia for storage because of the strict measures being enforced by the military government in Venezuela. The guns bore the stamp "Ceska Sbrojovka" and sold for 300 pesos in Colombia. One machine gun of the same make was available for 800 pesos.
2. Crew members of Colombian aviation companies have been purchasing arms outside the country for sale in Colombia. Company authorities have discovered employees importing arms in two instances, but the number of arms brought into Colombia in this manner is considered negligible.

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